

I call on you to hold an official public hearing in my state.

Before the disastrous 2003 decision to weaken media ownership rules (which a federal court has now overturned), you held only one official public hearing. Further, FCC officials met behind closed doors 71 times with major broadcasters – but only five times with public interest groups. And to justify your actions, you used deceptive, industry-sponsored research data.

The will of Big Media had been heeded at the expense of American citizens and democracy itself. This has to end. Before you rewrite the ownership rules, I demand an official public FCC hearing in my state, impartial and verifiable research, and transparent debates.

It is time to put the needs of democracy – a diverse, skeptical, independent and competitive media system – ahead of profit-hungry media giants.

The media is distorting facts and "burying leads" in essence they are not performing their function in a free society. The result is a Pravdesque parade and the elimination of real competition. The more consolidation that we allow the larger grow the risks to the continuation of our democracy. Stop the spread of large media outlets and restore local ownership and service along with a restitution of the "fairness doctrine".

As a country we are allowing our freedoms to be eroded by media cogglomeration. Will you encourage this or will you take a stand to protect our democracy. And if you don't protect our democracy will your children and grandchildren be as proud of you as you are of your father.